

~~ABSTRACT~~~~AS~~ ~~ENCODED VIDEO SIGNAL FORMATTING~~

5 A method and apparatus are provided to enable variable speed forwards or reverse play of motion-prediction coded sequences of video signal frames. Successive images of a sequence are MPEG encoded with some images of the sequence becoming I-frames and the remainder P- or B-frames. The frame data is formatted to sequences of fixed size data

10 blocks (I,P,B) to form a data block stream into which further, information, blocks (i) are inserted at periodic intervals. Each information block (i) carries a pointer to the relative location in the data block stream of the first data block of the immediately preceding I-frame.

15 (Figure 2)

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